

IS YOUR SCHOOL READY?

How well would your school respond to a disaster? How would people respond in the first few minutes? In the first few hours: Do people know what to do? Schools and communities face all kinds of potential hazards, both natural (weather, fires, earthquakes, etc.) technological (hazmat, utility interruption, etc.) and human caused (violence, vehicle accidents, etc.). Being prepared to address such hazards requires thorough and comprehensive planning and training. How ready are you? Take this test to find out. Mark **YES**, **NO**, or **NOT SURE** to the following questions.

	YES	NO	NOT SURE
1. Does your school have an emergency response plan?			
2. Did the plan result from a hazard analysis and does it address multiple hazards, not just fire?			
3. Does your plan meet Arizona's minimum and recommended requirements?			
4. Does the plan include mitigating potential disasters?			
5. Does the plan include response to disasters?			
6. Does the plan include recovery activities?			
7. Was the plan developed by a multi-agency committee (school, fire, EMS, police, & emergency management)?			
8. Does the plan include the Incident Command System (ICS)?			
9. Have ICS responsibilities been assigned as well as back ups?			
10. Does the plan include an accountability system for all persons in the building (students, staff and visitors)?			
11. Does the plan include a student release procedure?			
12. Does the plan identify both primary and secondary evacuation routes?			
13. Is the plan practiced through regular drills and exercises?			
14. Are first responders included in drills and exercises?			
15. Are both evacuation and reverse-evacuation drills exercised?			
16. Are shelter in place drills practiced?			
17. Are lock-down drills practiced?			
18. During evacuation drills, are "Exits Blocked" functions tested?			
19. During drills, are student accountability systems tested?			
20. Does inclement weather impact your decision to drill?			
21. Does the plan include provision for regular review and updates?			
22. Have you read the plan?			
23. Do you know where the plan is?			
24. Has the plan been reviewed and accepted by the local emergency manager, law enforcement, and fire agencies?			
25. Do you know your local emergency manager?			

If you were able to respond YES to all or many of these questions, congratulations, your school is probably well prepared to respond to almost any type of disaster. Obviously, your **NO** or **NOT SURE** responses point to areas where present plans and systems might be improved. If you had more than five **NO** responses, your school quite likely will face serious problems when the disaster strikes.